MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1881.

Amusements To-day. Albey's Pork Theatre-Brone, Pavat. Academy of Husle-William Tell.
Ame Jean Institute-Interest Examina Aguntum- lith st. and Breadway.

Academy of Hunte, Brook ye.—Operate Concert.

htjue Opera Hen e.—The Susse Current. Hooth's Frentre-Admine.

B. norll's Museum Broadway in [7] st.
Brooklyn Park The tree Forget vis Not.
Body's Theatre-The Parking Resiment.

Craed Opera House - Roydle. Globe Dime Museum 225 Bowery Baverly's Niblo's Garden—the Well Haverly's 14th St. 1 bentre. Fun in the British. Haverty's 5th Av. Theatre-Kng Lee Maverly's Theater, Brooklyn Palance, Mediano Square Theater Emeralds, New Theater Comique—The Major, Revelly Theater, Brooklyn-Unity a Par-San Francisco Minuterla-Browiws; and 19th st. Standard I heater—Patience. Thalis I heater—The Haunted Cestle. Tony P. stor's Thentre-Varlety. Union Square Theatre-Camille. Win so. Theatre-Duscon Crankett

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Nov. 26, 1881, was:

#### Total for the week ...... New Investigations.

Investigations are now going forward at Washington which, it is said, will throw the Star route frauds and the Howgare embezzlements entirely into the shade, and involve persons holding high place in serious trouble.

The demoralization caused by civil war, and long possession of power by one party, have produced their natural fruits in organized plunder. The new Administration has a great opportunity to purge the public service of these and kindred vices; but the danger is a fear of exposure which may react against the party.

When the Emperor NICHOLAS set out to reform the chronic abuses of the Russian service and to stop the notorious and systematic stealing with which it was saturated, he found himself confronted with an unexpected obstacle. The biggest thieves were not only members of the imperial household, but also members of his own family.

In a political sense, Gen. ARTHUR cannot be classed as a reformer. He has been long identified with what is familiarly known as machine management, and practically he has been its chief engineer in this State. But it does not necessarily follow that in his present responsible trust he will continue in this course, or give any countenance to the evil-doers who have been engaged in robbing the Treasury.

On the contrary, the President has every honorable motive to signalize his Administration by a departure which will attract the public confidence. It remains to be seen whether he has the moral courage to meet the just expectation of the country by pursuing the plunderers who have become enriched on the taxes paid by labor, or whether he will be deterred in the full discharge of that duty because it may bring to grief recognized leaders of the Republican party.

### Is Judge Robertson to Go Out ?

The rumor is revived that Judge Robertson will ere long resign the office of Collector of New York, either in accordance with his own intentions or in compliance with · a request from the Administration. Under the tenure-of-office act he would not be turned out; and of course nothing of that sort is probable. But unless Gen. ARTHUR'S Cabinet is to be made up of materials very different from what is expected, a new man at the head of the Custom House in this city

From the advent of Gen. Jackson in 1829 down to the present time, every Administration has acted on the principle that the Collector at New York must be in close fellowship with its policy, and especially must keep up cordial political and personal relations with the President and the Secretary of the Treasury. Such is the importance of this office, and the influence of the Collector in the control of nominating conventions and the dispensation of national patronage, that the rule just stated has been rarely relaxed for a day in the past flity years. Indeed, in our times it would excite as much surprise to observe even a hesitating supporter of the President controlling for four years the receipts of customs in New York as to see an open opponent participating in the consultations of the Cabinet in the White House.

As Judge Robertson is a warm personal friend of Mr. BLAINE, and was appointed to the Collectorship to promote his Presidential aspirations, and as Robertson and Gen. ARTHUR came into sharp collision during the protracted effort to reelect Mr. CONK-LING and Mr. PLATT to the Senate, the rumor that he will not remain much longer in the Custom House is entitled to credit.

#### The Management of the New York University.

For several months past the affairs of the University of the City of New York have been the cause of considerable perturbation in Presbyterian circles. Ostensibly the institution is non-sectarian, and the Presbyterian interest in its management is probably due to the fact that the Rev. Dr. Howard CROSBY has so long been the Chancellor. and that the Rev. Dr. John Hall was, until lately, expected to succeed him in that office.

As far as we can ascertain from the various published statements on the subject, there has been for some time a decided difference of opinion among the members of the Council of the University as to the manner in which its affairs should bereafter be conducted. There have been many who desired to abolish the academic department and devote all the resources of the institution to the maintenance of a group of professional schools, with the Roy. Dr. Howand CROSHY still at their head. On the other hand, a large minority of the Council, which subsequently changed to a small majority, favored keeping up the academic department, and the Rev. Dr. JOHN HALL was prominent among the members who were successful in having it retained.

Notwithstanding this success, he has declined to accept the office of Chancellor. His refusal has called out the somewhat harsh suggestion that he ought to have been willing, even at a great sacrifico, to assume the responsibility of directing the affairs of the university under a system which has been retained chiefly because of his advocacy.

Such criticism seems to us exceedingly ungenerous. Dr. Hall was willing to assume the responsibility. He was more than willing, he was exceedingly desirous to do so. No one can read his letter of declination without seeing this. A distinguished clergyman, who understands the use of language as well as any one in the country, does not talk about "consolution" for not

compulsion of circumstances. The circumstances in this case were the wishes of the congregation of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church.

### Mr. Phonix's Munificent Bequest.

One, of the largest bequests ever made to any of our colleges is that of the late Mr. STEPHEN WHITNEY PHENIX to Columbia College in this city. At the death of his brother and two sisters, who are given a life estate in the property, about six hundred thousand dollars will go to the college under the terms of Mr. Phenxix's will. In addition, he has left to the institution an extensive and valuable library and a choice

collection of engravings.

Mr. Phonix was one of those men of cultivation, of scholarly tastes, habits, and acquirements, and abundant wealth to gratify a refined and studious bent, of whom we have many in New York. In a smaller town, in Boston, for instance, he would have been a marked character, a man who would have been pushed into prominence even against his will. But here in New York he was ablo to pursue his favorite studies and make his choice collections from far and near without attracting the public notice which his shy and reserved temperament always dreaded

The munificent sum left by Mr. PHENIX to the college at which he was graduated in 1859 is not the only gift made by him to the city, and he had for many years taken an active interest in the Metropolitan Museum of Art; but his name as a giver and as a patron was never made conspicuous, for he shunned notoriety both as concerned his liberal deeds and his wide and scholarly acquirements.

The bequest he has made to Columbia College will go to what is already the most richly endowed educational institution in the Union. That college is the owner of a vast amount of the most valuable landed property in the city, and the income it receives from its leases steadily increases, for as they expire they are renewed on terms more favorable to the college. So great is this income that we doubt whether it is all expended annually. Certainly enough money has been accumulated to pay for extensive and costly buildings, though the regular expenses of the institution have been much increased of recent years.

This magnificent endowment is practically unconditioned. The trustees of the college can spend it for educational purposes in their own way. Other colleges may have large endowments, but usually a large part of their property has been left to them for certain specified purposes, so that they are hampered in the administration of their funds. But in the case of Columbia its income, now so great, and in the future certain to be enormous, is not burdened with

such restrictions. Mr. Phoenix, however, as we understand it, provided that the money left by him to the college should be first devoted to developing its equipment for original scientifle investigation. In that respect the college is deficient, but his munificent bequest will give it the means of fitting up a laboratory for research which will be by far the most complete in the Union. In anticipation of the receipt of the money, the trustees of the college, with their splendid income ought at once to begin the work which Mr. PHŒNIX had at heart.

So generously endowed, so favorably situated, with a career so long and honorable, and with so many opportunities enjoyed by no other similar institution, Columbia Col lege ought to take its rank among the greatest universities of the world. It has the means of commanding the best educational talent, the profoundest scholarship of the time.

# A Great Navv.

To get one old cruiser rebuilt has of late years been a great event for the Navy Department; a still more prodigious triumph has it been to construct a whole new war vessel. Hence the grave proposal of the Naval Advisory Board to build not one but forty war ships is somewhat startling.

The precise language of the Board's report is not likely to be known until it has been examined and digested by Judge Hunt, who has returned from his laborious and exhausting task of inspecting the northern yards. Nevertheless, it is substantially known that the summer cogitations of the Board have resulted in its recommending the construction of two big cruising vessels, of over 5,500 tons displacement each, and with a speed of 15 knots; half a dozen of about 4,500 tons displacement, and a speed of 14 about 3,000 tons displacement, and a speed of 13 knots; and either twenty or twentyone of about 800 tons, and a speed of 10 knots. The total is a fleet of thirty-eight, forty-one, or forty-two new vessels. As the Board report that there are about twenty-one ships that can now be depended on for squadron

service, their proposition is substantially to triple the cruising navy. The first point to be noted in the new proposition is that the ships are all added to the aggressive or ocean-going, instead of to the defensive or harbor-fleet functions of the navy. Of course, cruisers have, in one sense, a very important defensive function as convoys of commerce; aggression, too, is often a method of defence; but that the urgent problem of coastwise security forms no part whatever of the colossal new naval scheme, is evident from the fact that every one of these forty vessels, from the two first-rates to the twenty gunboats, is to be unarmored. We may conclude, therefore, that the whole question of ironelads has been passed over, unless in the form of rams, of which it is believed a supply has been favored by the Board. Yet certainly, in our day, considering what has been going

on in foreign navies, the ironelad question has a degree of importance. The next thing to be observed is that the proposed forty new ships are to be built of steel. It is probable that the use of steel for the hulls would give advantages in minimum weight for strength, and in gain of space for the maximum of motive machinery and of capacity of coal bunkers, which is equivalent to a greater assurance of speed, and also to plenty of room for heavy batteries. Merchant vessels, built by owners able to afford the first outlay for steel, are now very largely constructed of it; and the use of this material, which only began a few years ago, is increasing enormously every year. But the argument that the recommendation of steel will give an impulse to American shipbuilding in that material may not commend itself to those works which are only prepared just now to

build of iron. In the third place, the question of speed bylously becomes of the highest importauce, under the conditions already spoken That is, these ships would add little directly to the urgent problem of coast and harbor defence though the Board will undoubtedly be found to have considered the latter to a certain extent under recommendations for very swift torpedo launches and for harbor rams. Furthermore, the fact that the vessels are to carry no armor on accepting an office unless he wishes the their steel hulls would diminish, though of

public to know that he refuses it under the | course not wholly forbid, their use in attacking a foreign port defended by powerful modern artillery, so much of which could easily riddle the heaviest of the new fleet at the fighting range of our own naval guns. Accordingly, in time of war with any maritime nation of the first class, these vessels would be chiefly valuable, it is to be presumed, in destroying the enemy's commerce For this they would be more than adequate in strength. But their success would largely be dependent on speed. It is therefore noticeable that fully a half of this new navy is not expected to realize more than ten knots. It is evident that these vessels could not escape from many modern ironelads, and could not overhaul a large part of the modern mercantile steam marine. It is true that these small gunboats might have limited and special functions which they could adequately perform, such as patrolling Chinese rivers or entering shallow Mexican or Central American harbors, and it is also true that, though their numbers would be great, their cost would be a small fraction of that of the whole fleet. Still, their proposed speed is certainly not ambitious even for peace service. The other half of the suggested new navy is more promising; but only eight of the vessels will call for over thirteen knots, and only two will be expected to reach fifteen. And this, too, is without armor. If the contractors for the engines are allowed, as usual, the advantages of a trial on the measured mile, with its smooth water and selected weather, the average working speed might be a knot or two less. Much, therefore, depends on what

> will be required in these respects. But as the cost of this proposed new fleet vould be, even according to the first estimates, \$39,000,000 or \$31,000,000, it is perhaps premature to discuss in close detail this scheme, which is to be offered, with a request for the first installment, to a Congress already aghast at other prodigious demands for appropriations.

### Reform the Fences!

Somebody has made a calculation showing that the money invested in fences in the United States amounts in the aggregate to more than the national debt. These fences, moreover, must be renewed on the average once in every ten years. They are growing more expensive with the scarcity of timber and the increasing demand for lumber for more important purposes. Some substitute must be found. Wire is extensively used, but there are serious objections to it in all its forms.

Why not adopt the Osage orange? Properly treated, it makes an excellent hedge. When the plants are allowed to grow up untrimmed they make beautiful trees, and a few of them, permitted to shoot up at intervals in the hedge, are very desirable both for shade and ornament. With good attendance a hedge may be obtained in three or four years that will turn the largest or the smallest stock. Better still, it will turn men and boys. The lawless trespasser will have a hard road to travel when he has either to bolt through an Osage hedge or run a quarter of a mile to find a gate.

Nothing would go further to relieve the farmer from this annoyance, which in the neighborhood of towns is almost unendurable, than the general introduction of the hardy Osage hedge. The sportsmen, who are annually urging the Legislature to greater stringency in the laws for the preservation of game, may also profitably consider how much this cheap and simple expedient would contribute to their object. The hedge is the best friend of the bird, and the worst enemy of the trespasser and the pot hunter.

# What are the Examiners For?

What is the use of having examiners of public, if such a state of affairs can occur as the devotees of the code can explain. is shown by the disclosures of the condition of the Pacific and the Central National banks in Boston, following closely upon the explosion in Newark?

It is an open secret that many of these examiners are incompetent clerks, unskilled in bookkeeping, who are sent out from Washington by favor on a sort of holiday excursion. Baldwin contrived, as cashier, to get away with two millions and a half, which would have been impossible with any rigid test of the bank's accounts. He called the examiner's work a mere farce, which in no way interfered with his operations.

Over two millions are swamped in the Pacific Bank of Boston, consuming the whole capital and an outside million from the stockholders. And although the instiknots; ten-some rumors say thirteen-of | tution was in bad odor, and may be said to have carried on its business under the cover of another bank in good standing, it was allowed to go on without the scrutiny which the law provides as a security against impotent or corrupt management.

The Central Bank was only saved by outside aid. The books are reported to be correct, but the President carried enormous loans "in his head," made without the knowledge of the directors, to a speculator in stocks who not long ago had been cornered in a venture very similar to that in which he was upheld by this President, who

is reported by the examiner to be "honest." The Comptroller of the Currency, who makes these appointments, ought to be held to strict account for their fitness and integrity by safeguards that would provide against ignorance and collusion.

Some of the most glaring failures may be traced directly to the selection of favorites and of relatives for this duty of examination. Banks reported to be unquestionably solvent have been immediately crushed down by a load of transparent fraud. A brother-in-law examiner, who made the report in the notorious case of the German-American Bank in Washington, right under the eye of the Comptroller of the Currency, has been profitably employed for years as its receiver, deriving his authority from the same source.

Nothing seems to give Park Commissioner STRANAHAN of Brooklyn so much pleasure as increasing the city debt. His latest scheme is to expend \$200,000 in digging down and filing up some lots on the east side lands, that they may bring better prices when sold, and to raise this money he wants more city bonds floated. Mr. STRANAHAN has been about the most expensive official Brooklyn has ever had, and Mayor Howett should turn him and his new scheme over to the reform Mayor elect. Mr.

The South had four more hangings last Priday, two in South Carolina and one each in l'ennessee and Georgia. All four culprits had been found guitty of atrocious murders, but there were no confessions on the gallows, while one of the victims, a few hours before death, took a selemn oath that he was absolutely inseent. Three of the murderers were confident of that happy hereafter which, of course, the Christian spectators who crowded to see the logal homicides wished for them all.

Nothing would have better pleased the late Uncle DANIEL DREW than the sight of those two young theological students in the seminary that he founded carrying the mail over country roads these frosty mornings to earn money to pay for their schooling. It is a robust effort, worthy of the old time collegians that we read

about but seldom see in these days. Do the young men get their inspiration from the life of the old cattle drover who built their school? Or does the fact that the seminary stands on the track where the famous mare Fashior achieved such fame a generation ago, and that her fine stable is the theologians' dormitory. have something to do with it? There is som times a good deal in association.

Though Christmas is still four weeks away, already the signs of its coming are at hand. Not until Thanksgiving is over do these signs appear; but no sooner is that day past than the shop windows blossom with goods fo holiday gifts, and the streets take on a festal look. There is every prospect that the coming Christmas season, will equal any of its prede cessors in gayety and splendor. Even were i only for the reaction after the long nationa strain of midsummer, we might look for a winter of jollity. But besides, the incoming tide of business prosperity which succeeded a long ebb has now reached, probably, or is fast reaching, the high-water mark. In the many fields of speculation, at any rate, and perhaps in some of the productive employments, fortunes have been accumulated within the past four years The Christmas holidays in one way or another exhibit the influence of a fortune-getting epoch

There is a squint toward pretence in the

claim set up by the Young Men's Democratic

Club in Brooklyn that the party there should be reorganized under its auspices, almost, if not entirely, to the exclusion of either of the two organizations that are composed of delegates chosen by the regular and the independent Democrats in the different wards. The young men want the reorganization to be controlled by men of high social standing; but the bone and sinew of the party in Brooklyn is composed of plain men, who have not carried the ocal differences into State and national politics and have been entirely faithful to the party where its principles were involved. It will be misfortune if they are led to suspect that a line of social distinction is to be drawn against them for if their loyalty to the party is broken they will be less able to resist the tendencies of capital to draw them into the Republican ranks, There are plenty of abuses to be corrected in Brooklyn, but registered primaries and a close attention to politics by the young men will go a long war toward correcting the svils now so apparent. In the pride of their strength young men should take care not to do mischief, and they will do well to ponder the truth that politically one Democrat is as good as any other if he is honest.

Though Boyp, the English oarsman, has taken up Hanlan's challenge to all the world, yet if HANLAN rows at his best there is very little chance for Boyp. The great sculler must regret putting the stakes at from \$1,000 to 5,000 a side instead of at larger figures, as the former amount, if insisted upon, will hardly pay him for the cost and time of going from Canada to the Thames, and spending months in training there. Besides, there is always the chance that some mishap or temporary indisposition may lose him a race even with Boyp,

In that distant and perhaps only millennial day, when a long-suffering people succeeds in having its telegraph and telephone poles and wires rut under the ground, where they belong, the number of wires used will be no disad vantage. But just now, while they encumber the streets, any contrivance promising to lessen the quantity employed is of public importance Hence the duplex wire system of telephones by which persons can talk forth and back on the same circuit, is of value, not only on the other grounds claimed for it, but on that of lessening the number of wires. This gain, however, should not diminish efforts to have ail wires of communication put out of sight.

A prince and a baron have been fighting in France over a newspaper article. The former is a Bonapartist, as his name of MURAT would indicate, while Baron VAUX follows the fortunes of the house of Bournoy. Prince MURAT demanded satisfaction from the Count of CHAMBORD's adherent for the objectionable article, and got it in the shape of a bad wound in the armpit. Now, how much more satisfied Prince MURAT tesis, with his wounded body the Government for the protection of the added to his previously aggrieved soul, only

> attributing it to a solid basis of recoverable Confederate property in Europe, a Loudon committee makes the announcement that the basis of the movement was an effort to work upon public sentiment in the United States, so as to procure a repeal of the Confederate debtpaying restrictions of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution. This is about as thin and hopeless a foundation as any speculation was ever started upon; and the announcement of it can hardly exhitarate investors in Confederate securities.

> In England a case of mismanagement of charitable institution for children has recently come to light, which has caused those who are discussing it there to compare it with the famous Shepherd's Fold case of this city. It would be fortunate if these two were the only instances of their kind in their respective countries. But in all the children's institutions that boast their boards of trustees, their quarterly or monthly inspectors, their lady patrons, do these functionaries deserve the official posi-tions to which they lend their names? What are they doing to justify the responsibility they assume? It is often on the strength of their supposed surveillance that contributions are made by the charitable, and that children are intrusted to the institution. Surely no woman could see pinched faces and shrinking forms among these little ones without suspecting that something was going wrong, no matter how gratifying the array of statistics on paper, or how abundant the feast offered to the visiting board. It is greatly to be feared that in some cases ladies who like to appear as patrons and official visitors of charitable institutions either do not visit them or de not look when they visit that they enjoy the social meeting, the lively chat, the welcoming lunch, and the complacent feeling of official position, without really looking after their wards. In some cases, too, people who do nothing but lend their names to visiting boards forget that thus offices are only nominally filled which might otherwise be supplied with conscientious and capable examiners.

> Another newspaper project is attributed to M. Gamberra-this time a journal in Marseilles, to be called Le Mirabeau. It almost seems as if, at any moment when M. GAMBETTA is in doubt what to do next, he starts a new journal. But this appearance probably results from the fact that any new Gambettist newspaper is attributed to the Premier himself.

# Fitpper and Withelmi.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Ser: In an editorial comment upon the trial or Lieut Phyper in Ton Sen of the Tal met, you have unconsciously done injus-tice to Licut Louis Willicker, one of the best of the younger officers in the service.

Lieut Whiteling entered West Point is 1873, and from over application to study his health failed early in 1874 and he remained in the hospital at the Military Academ for nearly tour months, and was set back to the cla-

for nearly tour months, and was set back to the cine of 1874. In the amount of 1874, having resumed his at these which physically amultied to purse. Butter, he still red a substrake, which independent his return to the hospital, where he returned for several months, and then resigned because he test that the river of routine and statistic required who probabily reach taking to him if purposed. In 1875 he applied to the French total or a commission in the army, and were inspect of the classes of left) and 1874, of which he had been a member at West Faint, indicating a petition to the War Department requesting the Whiteman appearational, and colored the line applied and the first and colored the line applied to the first better distinction. The shirts anally of the Anothery which the third applied how and the first state commission. The shirts as all to the head of the Fred Relation commission therefore a strong and the state of the proposed as free on the state of the regiment of the first homber and the state of the regiment of the area of the state of the free through the state of the proposed as the state of the regiment of the area of the state of the st

#### The Senute Restaurant. Prom the Warkington Star.

President pro tempora Davis of the Senate assumented the wiles of the late John weicher to the hirzye of the restaurant of the Senate.

EUROPE AT PEACE. Reasons Why the Great Powers are Not Like-

LONDON, Nov. 11.-It would seem, according to the present state of things in Europe. that peace is more secure than it has been for many years past. Austria and Germany have never been on more friendly and intimate terms and while Russia is still the ally of Germany Italy, by the recent visit of its King to the Em peror Francis Joseph, has shown a desire to be again on the most amicable footing with the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It is true that, on the other hand, the relations between England and France have of late grown cold, and to a manifestation of very angry feelings on the part of the first of these countries toward the second on account of the Tunisian expedition is now to be added the irritation which the English people feel at the difficulties their negotiators people feel at the difficulties their negotiators meet with in Paris in the drawing up of a liberal treaty of commerce. But for all that the two great Western nations are not on the eve of a disastrous rupture. In times of yore, when the least spark could kindle the most furious war between them, things would have been different; to-day war would need more serious causes to break out. These are quarreis of friends who use big words because they know they will not come to blows. It is perfectly certain that the Anglo-French alliance is not apparently quite as warm as it was under the empire, but, on the other hand, the somewhat severe trials the alliance has gone through at various periods have strengthened it against new ordeals. To be candid, somehow or other England's share of profit in this alliance has been the lion's share, for besides conquering her old enemy, Russia, in the Crimea, she is indebted to the alliance for the parisal adoption by France under the empire, of some free trade principles. France can also show that, though at the time of the massacre of the English by the Sepoys Napoleon III. offered the English Government facilities for the transport of their troops, in order to basten their arrival in India, and thus save British subjects from complete annihilation, England sees with displeasure the development of the colonial power of France along the northern coast of Africa because, although she has already possessed nerself of Orbraitar, Malia, and Cyprus, in the same region, she looks with extraordinary jeniousy and apprehension on every similar movement on the part of other powers. England in fact, has made herself so much at nome in the Mediterranean that she actually keeps watch over the siff it was another British Channel. There are few instances in the history of the world of such supreme boldness and arrogant selfshiness as are often exhibited by the foreign policy of England. Prussia must forever cast aside her natural ambition to develop her commercial activity, so much hindered in t meet with in Paris in the drawing up of a lib eral treaty of commerce. But for all that the

Busiand has decided for free trade; France England.

England has decided for free trade; France for protection. It is certainly much to be regretted that they cannot come to an understanding; but why should France, especially at a time when free trade is on its trial, incur all the blame for not changing her policy, while England displays exactly the same obstinacy on her side? We think that England is wise in adopting a free trade policy, but that it is quite in contradiction to liberal principles to find faut with people for entertaining different views on the matter and abiding by them.

However, once more, the quarrei between the two countries is not likely yet awhile to assume a serious aspect, although journalists on both However, once more, the quarrel between the two countries is not likely yet awhile to assume a serious aspect, although journalists on both sides, true to the worse traditions of the profession, have done their best to embitter it. Both countries have already too much on their hands to indulge in any superfluous conflict. Wise men know that it is useless to try to run away from the cares of this hie. People obtain divorces hoping against hope to get a better consort, but they soon discover their mistase; so nations change their government and substitute republican for imperial institutions, but on the morrow of their revolutions they find themselves face to face with the very difficulties they had flattered themselves they were going to shun. A Mexican expedition is the principal cause of the half of a powerful empire, but the warning is shortly forgotten, and we see the republic which issues from the ruins of the empire getting rapidly entangled in a military adventure strikingly resembling the Mexican one; for who does not see that the French republic has found its Mexico in Tunis? This inglorious African campaign, which has lasted only a tew weeks, and is not yet drawing to its close, has already cost the French 7,000 men and upward of \$20,000,000.

Gormany, whose far and clear sighted Chancellor inspires and directs everything in Lurope, and whose policy is of courses exclusively

now, and apparently not for some time to come, will the French throw down the gauntet of re-venge. But if France, as competent military critics say, could not wisely altempt, in the present unfinished state of its minitary organization, to enter single handed into a serious conflict, the same could be said of kingiand for similar and other reasons. The British army is not, either by its number or by its efficiency, actually ready to assume the offensive against any of the great Continental minitary powers, leadings, to speak only of Ireisand, England is too busy with her home and colonial policy to divert her activity to foreign struggles without the support of some strong almanee. If it had not been for these different reasons, there is no doubt that Mr. Gindstone would have ordered the seizure of the Suitan's Custom House at Smyrna, a few months ago, to force Turkey into the surrender of Thessaily, and would have braved the war which would likely have ensued.

As to the constant source of peril which Turkey is to the peace of Europe, it can only be said that, although the permanent maintenance of the Suitan's empire in Europe will be a said that, although the permanent maintenance resent unfinished state of its mintary organ

Turkey is to the peace of Europe, it can only be said that, although the permanent maintenance of the Sultan's empire in Europe will prove a mere impossibility, no one seems at present inclined to nasten its downfail.

To the different causes enumerated above as affording reasonable motives for believing in the maintenance for some time to come of the good relations at present existing between the different European communities, must be added the considerable work each of them is called upon to perform at home to repress the revolutionary movement which threatens to subvert all existing governments.

# KANSAS.

A Correspondent Thinks Too Much Prom-

Incuce has been Given to its Sand To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I must reply to the letter of the correspondent of Tax Sus who made a recent trip through Kansas. The inference from his letter is that all of Kunsas west of Emperia is a bar ren waste of sand, with no settlement worthy of being caised a town, and with few houses other than dug-outs and raircand stations. Now, what is the truin? Your correspondent after leaving Emporia and before graching trained this place is miserial and before graching trained this which is cited as a 13 pixel Kansas town in the Arkanson valid, he also be different hours through the garden region of Kansas and one of the furner agricultural selection of Kansas and one of the furner agricultural selection of Kansas and one of the furner agricultural selection of Kansas and one of the furner agricultural selection of Kansas and the selection of the furner agricultural perfection. Such results could not possible selection and agricultural selection of the selection of the furner agricultural selection. Such results could not possible selection and the furner agricultural selection of the sele called a town, and with few houses other than dug-outs and ratical stations. Now, what is the truth! Your on the one subsists of architecture. Print Barriors Torkea, Kair, Nov. 12

#### The Heathen Chines Administration. The blandly described Heathen Chines.

With his tricks so dark and his guileful ways, tomorred with the rule of Frautuleut Haves.

It turned up its nose at the thought of wine, And sinacked its lips ever weak lemonade, But cheated the people who came to disc.
And picked their peckets before it prayed. The mask of party covered it well,

But under that chear and thin water The worms of corruption laved to dwell, And risted there in the best of civier.

Begat in dishonor, as I born in crime,

such tricks it played, and such frauds it wrought, That its memory sickens the none of tame And when in its guileful ways it was cought,

And it tells the tale to all coming time,

THE EARTH DRYING UP.

Another Correspondent who Accepts that Melancholy Conclusion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Al though it is rather early to be speculating upon or preparing for the melancholy days when water has disappeared from the face of the earth, still there is no harm in knowing what the result is going to be. That the water will actually disappear is a foregone conclusion. That even a single generation can notice a diminution in large bodies of water is no longer to be controverted. That the earth will eventually present the appearance of the moon, or become what is known as a dead planet without inhabitants, vegetation, or any lifelike qualities whatever, is a fact fully recognized by our men of science. But where is the water going? It is not by any means going into the centre of the earth as is alleged. Of the cor-respondents who have written on this subject in THE SUN, none comes so near the mark as

Mr. Brundoge. He says:

In each and every atom of the solid metals and earths which enter into the combination of the rocks, a corresponding atom or water is absorbed and stored up in the various processes of their crystallization.

Some of the ricks contain two per cent, others five, and others ten per cent of their weight of water.

some of the recesses of their crystalization.

Some of the recess comain two percent, others five, and others ten percent of their weight of water.

Matter is indestructible, but it changes its form over and over again; and though a huge rock may contain ten per cent, of water, it might be ages or even centuries before two percent, of the water would return to an active fluid state, or help to swellany spring, lake, or river. Mr. Brundage says nothing, however, of the animal or vegetable kingdoms, although he must fully understand their significance in his manner of reasoning. Of the body of a man three-lourths is water. When he dies no appreciable amount of this returns to out water area, but goes through a series of transformations that build up the solid rather than the fluid elements of the earth. As the human race and the solid portions of our earth are increasing, and as water is a necessary element in their construction, it follows that water, as a tining in itself, must be decreasing. And this is what we are observing every day. There need be no immediate fear as to terrible results—not for a few centuries, at lenst.

Not until our earth is half land and half water Aed we be too anxious for all cencerned, or consider ourselves practically going down hill. After it has passed that mark, the human race and the whole animal kingdom, together with the vegetable world, will decrease in proportion as the water decreases. Vegetation will gradually diminish for want of water; the human race, in fact, the whole animal kingdom, vigether with the vegetable world, will decrease in proportion as the water decreases. Vegetation will gradually diminish for want of water; the human race, in fact, the whole animal kingdom, will solwly but surely disappear for want of vegetation on which to subsist; and finally, water mail contained therein will vanish, leaving the earth a wandering cinder like Mercury and the moon.

Br. Oct. 24.

BROKLYN, Nov. 24.

#### THE COLORED MEN. An Appeal in their Behalf by a Correspond

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Forty and more years of devoted effort, prompted by manly instincts, without pay or hope of reward, for the abolition of slavery and to have the colored man secured in equality before the law, entitles your correspondent to some consideration. In a review of these years it will be ob served how great is the work accomplished. The once almost universally despised and abject slave has been elevated to the proud relation of a free and equal American citizen, and is entitled to and enjoys not only freedom and equality before the law, but emoluments and honors at the hands of his fellow citizens. What followed the securing to him of the elective franchise were legitimate results, and all parfranchise were legitimate results, and all particles are becoming reconciled to the inevitable. The rights of man and of citizens are better understood by the mass of the people than they were forty years ago. None of the evil and much-dreated consequences predicted by those who opposed the reforms above alluded to have been realized; the moral, material, and other prosperties of the country have not been untavorately affected; our nation commands more respect, the jeers of the civilized world are no longer directed against it; the inhabitants of all parts of the land can now rest without phantoms in the form of daggers, the torch, and poison to disturb their needed slumber. There is no invasion of domicularly rights; these rights are held as sacred as ever. There are no more violations of the laws of propriety and of affinity than there were in ante-bestum days.

All of the above being true, may your correspondent, as a colored man, entreat that all asperity and unkind feeling be buried, and that the remembrance of the unpleasant past be committed to the tomb of forgettuiness? May there be such traternal relations on all sides, in all sections, between all partice—within those proper bounds that will ever exist in communities—as will leave the colored man free, like other men, to form such political and business alinguees as his interests, real or supposed, may dictate. Virgina's new boiley points in this direction. The South is beginning to consider its material interests, real or supposed, may dictate. Virgina's new boiley points in this direction. The South is beginning to consider its material interests. This will banish out prejudices, lead to broader and more expanding efforts and fellowships; resultant there rounds for the common weal. Let the example of the summation, at an earlier cate, of this, the linearing mantain, and its moral influence layor the consummation, at an earlier cate, of this, the linearing mantain, and its moral influence tayor the consummation, at an earlier cate, of this, the ties are becoming reconciled to the inevitable

North and he motal influence layer the con-summation, at an earlier date, of this, the in-ovitable. GEO, T. Downing. NEWPORT, Nov. 21.

# Book Astes.

Messrs, T. B. Peterson & Brothers have pub ished a new edition of John Habbert h's popular hit story of " Helen's liables," and also a new edition of "The inmais," one of the most successful of modern novels.

A compact and handy little manual is Mr. W. B. Tut hin's "Practical Lessons in Architectural Drawing (W. T. Comstock). We commend it to stadents.

A holiday book of calraordinary interest is th "Chronicle of the Drums," Mr. Thackeray's long poem, with some thirty odd woostcut mustations, in the atmost perfection of art (Scribners).

A new story by Jules Verns is the "Giant Raft, or, Eight Hundred Leagues on the Amazon" (Scribners), a inodecimo volume of some 250 pages, copionsly illus

trated. The translation is by W. J. Gordon.
Dr. Isanc I. Hayes, returning from politics and legisla tion to the more truitful fields of literature, now appears as the author of "Pictures of Arctic Travel" (Carleton), neat little book, devoted to Greenland, a subject of mucinterest, about which comparatively little is known.
That agreeable little story. "The Cruise of the Gire by W. L. Alden, which has for some time past adorned

the pages of Harper's "Young People," is now repub lished in a nest volume of moderate dimensions. I Alden is deservedly held by his young readers as one o their favorite authors.

Col. Thomas W. Knoz now devotes his indefatigable and entertaining pen to narrating the "Adventures of Two Youths in a Journey to Ceyion and India, with Descriptions of Borneo, the Picilippine Islands, and Birmah illarpers. This volume forms the third part of the series known as "The Boy Travellers in the Par East."

its descriptions are vivid and interesting, and its illustrations do credit even to the press of the Harpers. An elegant gut book for the holiday season is th "Homes and liaunts of our Eliter Poets" (Appletons It treats of Bryant, Emerson, Longiellow, Whittee Holmes, and Lowell, three of the articles being by Mr. i R Sanborn, two by Mr. R. H. Stoddard, and one by Mr. I S. Powers. They are biographical and critical, containing li needed particulars in the literary and personal histor of these celebrated men. The idustrations consist of the portraits and pactures of their country homes and the scores surrounding them. The book is beautiful, con-nently satisfactory, and not turborter of the great

champions of American literature of whom it freats. Mr. John Bartlett, author of the invaluable manu of "Familiar Quetainus," has just produced a "Shan spente l'hrase mock," which he describes as "an mair. of the phraselogy of Shakes, earc; a concordance of phrase rather than of words. Every sentence from havespears 's gramatic works which contains an impor words in alphabetical order, and the result is an indimiable spitome of the wis and wisdom of Shakespears Such a compliation answers almost every purpose of verbal concordance, and occupies not a third of the apage. It is issued from the University Press, Cambridge.

and is a model of typegraphical mestices.

A Christinas allegorical story is told by the E-v. A. A. Theband, under the title of "Twit Twats" inathelic Cub. lication Society). It relates the history of the introdu tion of sparrows into the nestero ismirpoery, and re-intes it in a most a revalue marrier. Father Tourist appears to be as learned in react! to the nature sid ony and premarghy , and he wrates at them, in the enteample, agreeable, and beingender at in which we have ample in his have a more for a make at Fig. to the ample in this rate of the control of the property of t where main purpose is non-more. Would that all our sendite divines were now as going similarities of instance at Father Historia?
A sofficial if of posmis successed by the assessmant of

Precident Garder's has been published by McCleradian & is from good to positively bod. One or derived is a not exceed A.C.A., which originally appeared by the reat from the gravity of the subject with which it untributors deal.

Those who are interested in the Sattle between religion

and its form will find things to think of in "The New In causiliar news, but a weather mire pair's fidelity," by Augustus E. Grobe, published by G. P. Put. | complete think maximum to decrease and the contract of the contr mann's Sores. The author holds to at religious should be re- I as cieves on actor, has, and had ermed not also listed, and that the religion of to day is practice to also a sted the desegment that indeed but pagettion at the buttom.

-Erasmus Wilson, President of the Royal college of Surgeons, the great authority on cutaneous liverders, who brought Cleopatra's Needle to England

has been knighted. -In the case of Edward Maxwell, who was tragged out of a court room by Irnchers at Durand, Wis, the moose killing him before the meb got him to a

tree, a Coroner's jury has declared that he "fell from the court house steps and broke his neck." -The Derby, the Oaks, the Ascot Cup, and the Goodwood Cop were the only great English races this year not won by Newmarket horses, but the twenty. one principal races have been divided in about equal

proportions between the horses trained at Newmaraet and in other parts of the country. -The recent annual report of the British Crown laids shows that, notwithstanding the prevaining depression, a sum \$25,000 in excess of the whole allow ance made to the Queen has been paid into the public

exchanger Formerly the receipts formed a very small position of the Parliamentary grant to her. -A heavy rain storm prevailed at the time appointed for Frank Wells's marriage, at Crawlordville Ind., and it may be that the dampness quenched his mat ind., and it may be that the campions qualities his mat-rimonial ardor, for he borrowed \$0 and an umbreila from the bride, walked off nurriedly toward the rational station, and has not since been seen in the town

-The condition of German dramatic poetry is now very low. The Schiller prize, founded at Schiller's centenary, to be given every third year to the author of the best German drama during that period, has of been awarded, for want of sufficient excellence in the works sent in. The value of the prize offered in 1884 will be double that of the present year. -A scheme is projected for reviving the

ates of a canal through the Isthmus of Kraw, situated in the upper part of the Malay peninsula. It is stated that

the project is under French auspices. The idea is not new, as it was energetically pushed as far back as 1850.
The and was advocated at that time by Sir John Bowring a former Governor of Hong Kong. -At Liverpool, the other day, Capt. Kennegy of the White Star steamer Germanic was fired 20 and costs for allowing three cases containing 0,000 loaded cartridges to be taken into dock. It was suspected that

the carridges were shipped at New York, despite the probabition, and there was nothing in the bill of lading to edicate that the cartridges were loaded. -A cooperative society in Philadelphia has six stores open. This represents a steady growth from a very small beginning eight years ago. The three groceries and one meat market vield a handsome prof count from regular rates; but the dry goods and the she stores have barely paid expenses. On the whole, hew

ever, the enterprise is a sound success. -In a Prison Reform Convention in Sar Francisco recently, the Rev. Dr. Platt claimed that a nan once a convict would always be a convict The but no man could reform wader the weight of scorn, is ttion, and poverty which is the let of every convict

ciful detention for the remainder of his natural life. -While the congregation in a Welsh villare were recently assembling for divine service, a hige dog bounded through the building and took possession of the pulpit, obstinately resisting the efforts of the minister and several members of the congregation to dislodge him. In the end the minister had to content himself with the reading desk, leaving the dog in undisturbed possession the rostrum, in which he quietly remained while the service lasted.

-The excavations that have been conducted during some months past by the Greek Archie-orgical Society at Epidaurus have resulted in the discov-ery of the theatre of Esculapius. It is nearly as large as the theatre at Megalopolia, being estimated to seat more than 30,000 people. The material is Pentelic marble, and imagination fancies that it can trace the hand of the sculptor Polycletes. Many remains of statues, communications &c., have been brought to light. -A grand imperial palace is about to be

built in Strasburg. The German Emperor has often ex-pressed himself dissatisfied with the accommodation which has been at the disposal of the court during the inperial visits to that city; besides which the Hohen zollern tamily consider it hecks-ary for future genera-tions that German Emperors shall be provided with a suitable residence in the conquered provinces. The cost of the palace will be about \$665,000.

-Matthew Bray is the head of a wealthy umber firm at Hudson. Wis He was Bertha Saci's suitor ten years ago, and they made a marriage engageher to fix a price for permitting him to marry another the said that \$3,000 would satisfy her, and he signed a ote for that sum, payable on his welding day. not take a wife until lately, and new a lawsuit is the con

requence of his refusal to pay the claim.

"Brothers," said President Taylor, in his last annual speech to the Mormon Convention, "we don't exactly know how the Temple land stands. There s no need of keeping any account. There is the building going up right before your eyes, and you can all see in yourselves. We will now sing the 336th liven." This was regarded as rather cool, considering that the fend has already absorbed several millions, and charges of

swaling in connection with it have been made.

—A Philadelphia theatrical wig maker says that Clara Louise Kelloge wears a profusion of blonde hair a yard long as Marquerite at a cost of \$700; none. The carly brown was worn by Jefferson as Vin Wintle weight less than an ounce, and is considered t marvel of good workmanship, while the gray one cost, with the beard, \$150. Rose Wood lately part \$50 for a

blonde wig, Ada Gilman \$129, Marian Boets \$100, and Fanny Davenport \$225. —Thackeray's house in Kensington Palace Gardens, London, has just been sold. This the manson possesses more than the interest which ordinary at tuches to the dwelling places of distinguished men, for it was not only lived in, but built, by Thackeray, It is of red brick, and, as belitted the Bannor of Queen Anne man-ners, is built in the style which has been so generously named after that menarch. The house is sussented under the Crown, and the ground rent amounts to £125 per an min. Until recently it was occupied by Mr. Joseph Bravo,

the father of the victim of the Bainam tragedy. -Madame Herzog, whose husband dieds short time ago in Aargas, in Switzerland, has presented his collection of works on numerication, probably it most complete of its kind in existence, to the Cantoni Library of Aurgan. The collection consists of 24 valnimes, in addition to numerous pampule to and serial jul lications. It comprises every work of importance of medals, coins, and coinage that has been published in Europe and America during the present cautury at ject that have been adopted during the same period

-About a year ago the Louvre, in Paris, narrowly escaped being burned down, in consequence of a lamp having been left too near a curtain by a member of one of the households privileges to occur? a reflect of the buildings. And a few days ago, at the Laxembour Pance, shout a hundred of the choicest pictures wer terribly damaged by water through the sturning of servant girl, who had left a tap turned on causing the entire centre and walls of the Saile to be flooled will water, and seriously signing the pictures, it was beveral months before the room and its contents can be reopened to the public.

-A programme of addresses by dignified members and music by a large officera a sas and to celebrate the removal of the Common limit Trade to a new building. Certain of the memory's had ever, devised a programme of their out. While a Vicinitie of President should be their out. While a Vicinitie of President should be the read a paper ball for flour struck him in the face, weather the disconnects of his children. A abover of shine in manifester of an east attempted to speak. When the mean extend up it and drowned by horse bells, gones, and his years as to the the street procession from the old quarters (a the saw ones was unnectated, and along the right everythe within range was jetted with the rivide.

-Prof. Donders, long known as the man entinguished squast to Heatend, receilly decreases occurs in Amsterdam or coor, which has been when quoted. After an emborate caps mountal analysis s Various popular notions on the sometimes of the proceeded to demonstrate that, notations into the inreserved to remain the first of the second section of the second section in the second section of the second section sec

parents outsted from the analysis and all asymmetric country, says Prof. D., the result of a state of the Cyprint, Capt. J. A. S. rayland. toundered on the Westi coast act on the America on Food was a roung layers on ward act.
Sinches was about to describe the residence of and plaine with his crew rate in the con-nequitible of the frenching shows of a gold the guidant samulation of the first like boy, who there regal into the water of whose in anext, whose his arrested to be eight set on twenty energy wars never him. - Handse Reber, once the assistan

Materia kie eer skale oo ee eek oo staat in de ee I like a sull be a time dime.